



“WE SERVE”

The LIONS TALE

Official monthly publication of the Lions Club of Butler, Pennsylvania
Serving others since 1923

Liberty · Intelligence · Our Nations Safety



President: Rhonda Pilarcik
1st Vice President: MaryAnn Fleeger
2nd Vice President: Connie Ivill
3rd Vice President: vacant
Secretary: Michael Winkler
Treasurer: Thomas Faller

SEPTEMBER 2024 – MAY 2025
1st & 3rd Tuesdays – 6:30 p.m.
Butler Blind Association
322 North Cedar Street
BOARD MEETINGS
4th Tuesday – 6:30 p.m.
Butler Blind Association

JUNE – AUGUST 2025
1ST & 3RD Tuesdays – 6:30 p.m.
Alameda Park Lions Shelter
BOARD MEETINGS
4th Tuesday – 6:30 p.m.
Butler Blind Association

APRIL 2025

Club officers for Lions year 2025-2026: the slate of officers is listed below:

President: Maryann Fleeger
1st vice president: Connie Ivill
2nd vice president: Paul Vensel
3rd vice president: Adam Fleeger
Secretary: Michael Winkler
Treasurer: Thomas Faller
IPP: Rhonda Pilarcik
Tail Twister: Janet Flecken
Lion Tamer: Barry Flecken
LCIF Coordinator: Michael Winkler

Public relations: Connie Ivill
Service chair: Eric Cranmer
Membership chair: Adam Fleeger
Director, 2 years: Betty Basalyga
PDG Linda Gibala
Carolyn Winkler
Director, 1 year: Ellen Fullerton
John Hertzog
Tyler Morgan

April meetings: our April 1 meeting will be held at the Blind Association, starting at 6:30. Dinner reservations will be due to Lion Connie by Friday, March 28. The election of the 2025-2026 slate of officers will be held that evening. We will be presenting 3 Melvin Jones Fellowships (MJF) to 3 worthy club members. The club earns a MJF for every \$1,000 donated to Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF). The last MJF awarded by the club was to the late Lion Joe Smith in 2021. Our club continues to regularly support LCIF. In addition to the three we will be presenting that evening; we still have two more! The plan is to award these at our annual awards night. So, be sure and mark your calendar to be at our April 1 meeting to vote for next year’s club officers and be a part of the MJF presentations.

Our second meeting, April 15, will be held at the Blind Association, starting at 6:15. RSVP to Lion Paul (724-282-4198) by April 11. This is our “meet and greet” of prospective new members. We will provide, at no cost, pizza and salad from Pizza Pie on Route 8 north (late Lion Bill Criley’s son is the boss there), desserts made by club members and drinks. We will provide Lions club information and we will also have a presentation from the Master Gardeners of Penn State Extension. Please invite any one you think would make a good Lion. This event’s success depends on us promoting it and inviting potential members.

Club meeting dinner cost with in-club raffles and reservation policy: The cost of dinner for a club member is \$15 for one or \$25 for a couple. The dinner price includes a ticket for our 3 in-club raffles (Lion Sue Garris Memorial raffle, 50/50 and joker poker). If you are not eating or want an additional raffle ticket, the cost is \$3. That is for the 3 drawings. One ticket enters you in all three raffles.

For all regular club meetings, all Lions are asked to make a reservation with Lion Connie by the Friday prior to the meeting. If you make a reservation and do not come to that meeting, you will be responsible for paying for that reservation. Reservation cancellations must be made by the Friday before the meeting. If you come to a meeting without making a reservation; you will have to wait until those who made reservations have gone through the dinner line. If there is extra food, those without reservations will be invited to partake in the dinner. Be sure to pay Lion Tom for your dinner and get your raffle tickets.

Our meals will be buffet style. You are welcome to return for seconds after every one has gone through the line.

April board meeting: will be held on April 22 at the Blind Association, starting at 6:30. All members are welcome to attend.

New members: we are happy to report that we have added 2 new members to our club; Lion Andy Budmark (sponsor-Lion Ellen) and Lion Bryan Flecken (sponsor-President Rhonda). Welcome to our club Lions Andy and Bryan!

Lion Sue Garris Memorial Raffle: Contact Lion Wink to sign-up to bring a raffle item.

| | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|
| April 1 – PDG Linda | May 6 – Lion Paul | June 3 – Lion Connie I. |
| April 15 – Lions Wink | May 20 – Lion Betty | June 17 – Lion Janet |

Notes from Tail Twister, Lion Janet: asks that all Lions serve with their name badges on.

Guidelines for meetings: (all Tail Twister fines go into our administrative account)

- No Lion will partake of their dessert before the King Lion. Fine - \$1.00
- All Lions will read The Lions Tale for notification of “special” meeting digs! Fine - \$.50.
- All Lions will be respectful of all speakers by turning their cell phone to vibrate or silent during meeting times. Fine - \$1.00 for each ring tone.
- All Lions will wear your name pin or be fined!
- All Lions will properly address fellow Lions as Lion ___ at all Lions events or be fined!
- Have FUN at meetings and pack those quarters!

Katie’s Kitchen: (St. Mark’s) our club assists serving at the 2nd and 3rd Thursdays. If you are available to assist with either of these dinners, contact Lion Eric to assist at the April 10 dinner and Lion Janet to assist at the April 17 dinner. Thanks to Lions Eric, Paul, Randy, President Rhonda, and John for assisting at the March 13 dinner. 248 meals were distributed. Thanks to Lions Janet, John, Paul, Bill O., Carolyn, Wink and Bryan for assisting at the March 20 dinner. 261 meals were distributed.

Official provider of Butler Lions apparel: Titler’s Special Tees, 201 Kohler Avenue, Lyndora, has our official logo and can provide a variety of shirts and sweat shirts with the logo. The club shirt’s color is **ultra marine blue**. However, you can have our logo put on any apparel. Their telephone number is 724-283-0562.

2025-2026 dues: are now due. At the February 4 membership meeting, the members voted to raise the regular/privileged dues \$10 and the family member dues \$5; thus, the annual dues for regular/privileged member is \$85 and family member dues is \$60. Life member dues (Lions Bill and George) will remain at \$40. Please pay our treasurer, Lion Tom Faller, by June 17, 2025. It is preferred that you pay the full amount of your dues in one payment. However, you can pay half now and the other half by December 31. This increase will put \$598 into our administrative account; if the dues would have remained the same, only \$123 would have gone into the administrative account.

| 2025-2026 Dues Breakdown | | | | | |
|------------------------------|---------------|-------|----------|--------------|----------------|
| Dues | International | State | District | Beacon Lodge | Amount to club |
| Regular/Privileged \$85 (42) | \$50.00 | \$16 | \$3.50 | \$5 | \$10.50 |
| Family \$60 (13) | \$25.00 | \$16 | \$3.50 | \$5 | 10.50 |
| Life \$40 (2) | 0 | \$16 | \$3.50 | \$5 | 15.50 |



The collection of socks donated by members
And delivered to Meals on Wheels by
Service Chair Lion Eric



Food delivered to the Moniteau Food
Pantry by Service Chair Lion Eric

Ford City Lions Club: are having their 75th celebration on April 26 at the 10th Street Station, 301 10th Street, Ford City. Doors open at 5. The program starts at 6:00. The cost is \$25 per person. Contact Lion Wink to make reservations by April 1.

District Spring Convention: is May 17 at the Camelot Event Center, 250 Swinderman Road, Wexford. The social hour is from 4-5 with dinner at 5:00. The cost is \$50 per person. Contact Lion Wink by May 8 to make reservations.

Adopt-a-Highway: our first highway clean-up will be on Saturday, April 26. We will meet at Trinity Lutheran Church at 7:00. We will provide gloves, vests, garbage bags and donuts. The more Lions we have, the quicker we can get done and complete the entire two-mile stretch.

Hot dog stand: will be Friday, May 16 and Saturday, May 17. To run the stand effectively, we need Lions to staff it. Lions Paul and Randy are co-chairing the stand. Contact one or them to schedule your time(s) to help.

Penn State Master Gardeners event: will be at the Butler Farm Show grounds. We will have our sales booth there. The event runs Friday, May 16, from 2-6 and Saturday, May 17, from 10-4. Lion Art is chairing our booth. Contact him if you are available to help.

Community Meals Ministries Art Gala fundraiser: will be held on Saturday March 29 and Sunday, March 30 at St. Michaels Hall. We will have a report in the next Tale.



Lions Art, Ellen, Barry and B.T. as part of the Gala set-up crew



Our Club's beautiful raffle basket donated By Lion Janet



Lions Art, B.T., Barry and Randy
Lion Janet was photographer/set-up crew

Email contact: Lion Neil asks that emails be sent to his work address: ashbaugh@ncsquared.com



Happy birthday to the following Lions celebrating a birthday in April:

- Adam Fleeger (15)
- Doug Heltzell (20)
- Joann Fulmer (29)

CALENDAR

APRIL

- 1: 6:30 membership meeting, Blind Association
- 2025-2026 election of officers/Melvin Jones Fellow presentations
- 10: 5:00-6:00 assisting with community dinner at Katie's Kitchen (St. Mark's)
- 15: 6:15 membership meeting, Blind Association Meet and greet; Program: Penn State Master Gardeners
- 17: 5:00-6:00 assisting with community dinner at Katie's Kitchen (St. Mark's)
- 20: **Happy Easter**
- 22: 6:30 board meeting, Blind Association
- 24-27: PA Lions Beacon Lodge Camp work weekend
- 26: 7:00 Adopt-a-highway, Trinity Lutheran Church
- 26: 5:00 Ford City Lions Club's 75th celebration
- 10th Street Station, Ford City

MAY

- 1- 4: PA Lions State Convention, Scranton
- 6: 6:30 membership meeting, Blind Association Program: Glade Run Foundation
- 8: 5:00-6:00 assisting with community dinner at Katie's Kitchen (St. Mark's)
- 10: District 14-N cabinet meeting #4, time and Location TBA
- 11: **Happy Mother's Day**
- 15: 5:00-6:00 assisting with community dinner at Katie's Kitchen (St. Mark's)
- 16-17: hot dog stand, Sharp Shopper
- 16-17: Penn State Master Gardeners event, Butler Farm Show grounds
- 17: 4:00 District 14-N spring convention, Camelot Event Center, 250 Swinderman Road, Wexford
- 20: 6:30 membership meeting, Blind Association Program: Donna Baughman, American Red Cross
- 26: **Happy Memorial Day**
- 27: 6:30 board meeting, Blind Association

JUNE

- 3: 6:30 membership meeting, **Butler Lions shelter**
- 7: Butler County youth field day
- 12: 5:00-6:00 assisting with community dinner at Katie's Kitchen (St. Mark's)
- 15: **Happy Father's Day**
- 17: 6:30 membership meeting, **Butler Lions shelter** Installation of 2025-2026 club officers
- 19: 5:00-6:00 assisting with community dinner at Katie's Kitchen (St. Mark's)
- 20: **welcome summer**
- 24: 6:30 board meeting, Blind Association

JULY

- 1: 6:30 membership meeting, Butler Lions shelter
- 4: **Happy birthday, the great USA!**
- 15: 6:30 membership meeting, Butler Lions shelter Program: Kaden, Envision Blind Sports summer camp attendee
- 22: 6:30 board meeting, Blind Association

Other Club Officers:

Director, 1 year: Betty Basalyga
Ellen Fullerton
Randy Pilarcik

Director, 2 years:

John Hertzog
Paul Vensel

IPP:

Adam Fleeger

Membership Chair: IPP Adam Fleeger

Tail Twister: Janet Flecken

Lion Tamer: Barry Flecken

Public Relations Chair: Connie Ivill

Service Chair: Eric Cranmer

LCIF Coordinator: Mike Winkler

2024-2025 Butler Lions Committees

Budget, Finance & Grants:

Chairperson: Tom Faller

Fundraising:

Co-chairs: Janet Flecken and Paul Vensel

Club Events and Programs:

Co-chairs: MaryAnn Fleeger and Randy Pilarcik

Food:

Chairperson: Ellen Fullerton

Service:

Chairperson: Eric Cranmer

Public Relations-Club Promotion:

Chairperson: Connie Ivill

Ellen Fullerton

Paul Vensel

Vision, Hearing and Diabetes:

Chairperson: Carolyn Winkler

M. Fleeger (District diabetes chair)

Mike Winkler

PDG Don Gibala (hearing)

Webmaster:

Chairperson:

Membership:

Chairperson: IPP Adam Fleeger

Butler Lions Club

P.O. Box 1905

Butler, PA 16003

ButlerPALionsClub.org

Lion Mike Winkler – Tale Editor

lionwink@zoominternet.net

724-285-4304

Facebook.com/ButlerPALionsClub

Member Butler County Tourism & Convention Bureau

www.visitbutlercounty.com